



Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training

Initial Claims Statistics

August

Rhode Island workers filed a total of 4,786 initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits in August 2005, down 21 (-0.4%) from the 4,807 initial claims filed in August 2004.

Employees with an attachment to the Manufacturing (637) sector have filed the largest number of initial claims for the third consecutive month. The Manufacturing sector represented 13 percent of the total claims this month mainly due to temporary shut-downs typical for the summer vacation season. The Construction (512) sector reported the second largest number of claims representing 11 percent of the total initial claims this month. In comparison, less than 5 percent of the workforce is employed in the Construction sector. Ranking third for total initial claims in August was the Health Care & Social Assistance sector (426).

At the major occupational level, workers classified in Office & Administrative Support (625) and Production (556) occupations filed the largest number of claims accounting for one-quarter of the August total. There were also significant numbers of initial claims filed by workers classified in Transportation & Material Moving (499) and Construction & Extraction (343) occupations.

Initial Claims by Industry Sector

Industry	Claims	Percent
4,786	100%	
Agriculture/Forestry	1	0.0%
Mining	4	0.1%
Utilities	1	0.0%
Construction	512	10.7%
Manufacturing	637	13.3%
Wholesale Trade	190	4.0%
Retail Trade	306	6.4%
Transportation & Warehousing	308	6.4%
Information	46	1.0%
Finance & Insurance	193	4.0%
Real Estate	71	1.5%
Professional & Tech. Services	119	2.5%
Management of Companies	12	0.3%
Administrative & Waste Services	329	6.9%
Educational Services	108	2.3%
Health Care & Social Assistance	426	8.9%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	62	1.3%
Accommodation & Food Services	232	4.8%
Other Services	146	3.1%
Public Administration	50	1.0%
Information Not Available	1,033	21.6%

Initial Claims by Occupation

Occupation	Claims	Percent
4,786	100%	
Management	333	7.0%
Business & Financial Operations	116	2.4%
Computer & Mathematical	47	1.0%
Architecture & Engineering	55	1.1%
Life, Physical & Social Science	19	0.4%
Community & Social Services	51	1.1%
Legal	12	0.3%
Education, Training & Library	171	3.6%
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports & Media	87	1.8%
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	115	2.4%
Healthcare Support	132	2.8%
Protective Service	53	1.1%
Food Preparation & Serving Related	223	4.7%
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance	108	2.3%
Personal Care & Service	58	1.2%
Sales & Related	293	6.1%
Office & Administrative Support	625	13.1%
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	14	0.3%
Construction & Extraction	343	7.2%
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	125	2.6%
Production	556	11.6%
Transportation & Material Moving	499	10.4%
Military Specific	32	0.7%
Information Not Available	717	15.0%

Men filed fifty-three percent of the August claims and women filed forty-seven percent. Construction Laborer is the occupation most often cited by these newly unemployed men. School Bus Drivers is the occupation most cited by the newly unemployed women.

Forty-two percent of the claimants filing initial claims this month reported a high school diploma as their highest level of educational attainment. More than one-quarter of the claimants reported having education beyond high school, with ten percent possessing a Bachelor's degree. Fifteen percent of the claimants filing did not have a high school diploma or GED.

